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FRIDAY
DECEMBER 11, 1953

I met this morning with Ted Achilles, Bob Joyce, Martin Herz, and Bill Gibson. They are casting about for ways to be helpful in connection with the EDC ratification situation in France. They feel that its opponents are gaining ground and, if they continue at their present rate of success, in a short time the slight majority now estimated to exist in Parliament in favor of it will be reversed. We considered the possibility of the Secretary having a conference, if he could obtain the assent of Monsieur Bidault, with leaders of all the non-Communist parties and talking to them collectively about United States policy towards Europe. These political officers feel as I do, that most of the French parliamentarians are unclear as to the aims of U. S. foreign policy in Europe, particularly as it concerns EDC. Since the Government does not control the Parliament, oral conversations with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister do not necessarily get over even to their own followers the viewpoint of the American Administration.

I told them of my conversations on the same subject in Washington and they are to consult Doug MacArthur when he arrives. Upon reflection, I think it would be impolitic for the Secretary to carry out this suggestion.

Tommy and I had lunch together.

This afternoon Gerry Van Arkel came in with Mr. Greene. Gerry is representing him in a passport case. Both of them had been in the OSS with me. It appears there are allegations in Greene's FBI record relating to a period prior to his recruitment by OSS which reflect on his character. Van Arkel wants me to make an affidavit as to my own acquaintanceship with him. I said that my recollection of his activities when he served under me was sketchy and it was agreed Van Arkel would submit to me the kind of affidavit

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which I might consider. Similar questions have been presented before, and since I had several thousand people at one time or another in my various units they always present difficult problems as my acquaintance with individual operations was necessarily limited.

Jim Conant came to see me tonight and we talked about the Saar and other Franco-German negotiations.

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